

## **OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

### **BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **Denise Juneau, State Superintendent of Public Instruction**

As Montana's State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Denise Juneau is committed to creating a public education system that prepares every child for lifelong learning, work, and citizenship.

Denise grew up in Browning, Montana on the Blackfeet Reservation. She earned her undergraduate degree in English at Montana State University, a Master's Degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and a law degree from the University of Montana. In 2010, Carroll College awarded her with an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters.

Denise taught high school English in New Town, North Dakota and Browning. She was a Montana Supreme Court judicial clerk and worked briefly for a national law firm before serving as the Director of Indian Education at the Office of Public Instruction.

In 2008, Juneau was the first American Indian woman elected to serve in a statewide elected position. She is a strong advocate for all Montana students and promotes policies that ensure students meet today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities. Please contact Denise at 406.444.5658 or [opisupt@mt.gov](mailto:opisupt@mt.gov).

#### **Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent**

Dennis has over 30 years of public education experience in Montana from a classroom teacher, building principal and has served as District Superintendent, Shelby Public Schools, and most recently as Superintendent of Havre Public Schools. Please contact Dennis at 406.444.7325 or [dparman@mt.gov](mailto:dparman@mt.gov).

#### **Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff**

Quinlan has worked for the Office of Public Instruction for 21 years. Her duties focus on coordinating OPI's legislative agenda, supervising OPI's communication functions, providing Cabinet level support for the agency's K-12 education information systems and providing leadership support to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Please contact Madalyn at 406.444.3168 or [mquinlan@mt.gov](mailto:mquinlan@mt.gov).

#### **Ann Gilkey, Chief Legal Counsel**

Ann previously worked as the Equal Justice Coordinator for the State Bar of Montana, Chief Counsel for the Department Services, Supervising Attorney for the Department of Public Health and Human Services, program specialist for the Montana Supreme Court

Assessment program, and taught Child Advocacy as an Adjunct Professor at the University Of Montana School Of Law. Ann has served on various local and state boards, including Child Care Partnerships, the Board of Social Work Examiners, Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists, and CASA of MT.

Ann received her J.D. and School Psychology M.A/Ed.S. from The University of Montana. She resides in Helena with her husband, Jay Erickson and children, Sam and Zoë. Please contact Ann at 406.444.4402 or [agilkey@mt.gov](mailto:agilkey@mt.gov).

### **Allyson Hagen, Director of Communications**

Allyson most recently was the executive director for a statewide non-profit organization that advocates for access to reproductive health care. She has experience in communications, coalition-building and community outreach, strategic planning, fundraising, public policy analysis and legislative advocacy. Allyson is a proud product of Montana's public schools. She graduated from Westby Public Schools and the University of Montana, earning a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Please contact Allyson at 406.444.3160 or [ahagen2@mt.gov](mailto:ahagen2@mt.gov).

### **Judy Snow, State Assessment Director**

Judy is currently State Assessment Director. Prior to joining OPI, she served as an Adjunct instructor for the University of Great Falls and taught public school in Great Falls. Judy received her B.A. from Westminster College in Salt Lake City and her Ed.M. from Harvard University. She has been an active member of numerous organizations including the American Association of University Women which provided a grant to support her founding and directing a summer computer camp for middle school girls. Please contact Judy at 406.444.3656 or [jsnow@mt.gov](mailto:jsnow@mt.gov)

### **Deborah Halliday, Community Learning Partnerships Policy Advisor**

Halliday worked for the past eight years advising non-profit organizations on issues of strategic planning, leadership development, and communications. Prior to that, she served as Director of Planning and Development for Partnership Health Center in Missoula, and as Chief Aide for the Senate Minority Office of the Montana State Legislature in 1995. Halliday is a graduate of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs' Master's program in Public Administration, where she focused on Social Welfare Policy. Please contact Deb at 406.444.3559 or [dhalliday@mt.gov](mailto:dhalliday@mt.gov).

### **Terry Kendrick, Special Projects**

Terry Kendrick has a background in policy advocacy and has worked in the non-profit sector for the past 25 years. In addition, she worked as an organizational consultant

conducting strategic planning, conflict resolution, and meeting facilitation. In 2002 she wrote the *Montana Women's Report*, a look at the achievements and challenges of women in the areas of the economy, health, education, and politics. In 2008 she co-authored *Moving Women Forward: Strategies for Success*, a report for the National Partnership for Women and Families. Ms. Kendrick holds an M.A. from Gonzaga University in Organizational Leadership.

Ms. Kendrick works as the Special Projects Director in Superintendent Juneau's office. She is currently works with Montana Common Core Standards, Farm to School, Safe Schools, and the Summer Reading programs. Please contact Terry at 406.444.3449 or [tkendrick@mt.gov](mailto:tkendrick@mt.gov).

**Billie LeDeau, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent**

Billie joined the Office of Public Instruction in January 2011. She recently served as the Administrator Officer for Governor Brian Schweitzer's Office of Indian Affairs. Prior to the Governor's Office, she was the Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner of Academic & Student Affairs for the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education/Montana University System. LeDeau graduated from The University of Montana – Helena College of Technology.

Billie is an enrolled member of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation. Please contact Billie at 406.444.5658 or [bledeau@mt.gov](mailto:bledeau@mt.gov).

**Thea Whalen, Office Manager**

Thea joined the Superintendent's office in October 2011. She came from Missoula where she worked as Media and Events Coordinator for a local non-profit, WORD. Before that she worked with the Montana Parent Information and Resource Center, assisting schools, families and communities on meaningful parent engagement. Thea has also been coordinating and producing events for the last 11 years, including fundraisers, conferences and, through her own small business, weddings. Please contact Thea at 406.444.5643 or [twhalen@mt.gov](mailto:twhalen@mt.gov).